

Amendments to the Claims

The current listing of the claims replaces all previous amendments and listings of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A photosensitive drum assembly for an image forming apparatus, comprising:

a drum defining first and second open ends;

a flange partially disposed in the first open end; and

a grounding plate assembly comprising

~~a drum contact member and a shaft contact member, the~~ a plate member including a void configured to receive a grounding shaft therein,

a drum contact member configured to remove an electrically resistive coating from an interior of the drum, the drum contact member connected to an outer periphery of the plate member, and

the at least two shaft contact member members configured to contact [[a]] the grounding shaft disposed therebetween, the shaft contact member members disposed entirely within an interior of the flange, and the shaft contact members connected to an intermediate member connected to the outer periphery of the plate member.

2. (Original) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 1, further comprising:

a shaft disposed through a void defined in the flange, the shaft and the grounding plate providing a grounding path for the interior of the drum.

3. (Original) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 2, wherein the grounding plate comprises a plurality of drum contact members, at least one of the drum contact members configured to remove the electrically resistive coating.

4. (Original) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 3, wherein at least one of the drum contact members has a length longer than the other drum contact members.

5. (Currently Amended) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 1, wherein ~~the grounding plate~~ the plate member comprises a conductive plate including the outer periphery, and the grounding plate assembly comprises a plurality of drum contact members radially protruding from ~~an~~ the outer periphery of the conductive plate.

6. (Original) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 5, wherein the plurality of drum contact members comprises at least three circumferentially spaced drum contact members.

7. (Original) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 6, wherein the plurality of drum contact members comprises at least five circumferentially spaced drum contact members, and wherein a first one of the drum contact members has a first length, and a pair of the drum contact members has a second length, and wherein the first length is larger than the second length.

8. (Original) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 7, wherein the flange defines a first recess, and wherein the first drum contact member is disposed adjacent to the first recess.

9. (Currently Amended) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 1, wherein ~~the grounding plate~~ the plate member comprises a planar portion, and the grounding plate assembly comprises a plurality of drum contact members bent relative to the planar portion.

10. (Currently Amended) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the shaft contact ~~member~~ members is bent.

11. (Currently Amended) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 10, wherein ~~the grounding plate comprises a plurality of~~ the at least two shaft contact members comprise two shaft contact members extending from the intermediate member.

12. (Currently Amended) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 11, wherein ~~the grounding plate comprises~~ the two shaft contact members are bent.

13. (Original) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 12, wherein free ends of the two shaft contact members are disposed between a surface of the interior of the flange and a planar surface of the grounding plate.

14. (Original) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 1, wherein the flange comprises a gear surface.

15. (Original) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 14, wherein the flange comprises a plastic and the grounding plate comprises a metal.

16. (Original) The photosensitive drum assembly according to claim 1, wherein the flange comprises a gear surface formed on a portion disposed outside of the drum, and wherein the flange defines an aperture configured to receive a grounding shaft.

17. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus including a drum assembly, the drum assembly comprising:

a drum defining first and second open ends;

a flange disposed in the first open end; and

a grounding plate assembly comprising

~~a drum contact member and a shaft contact member, the~~ a plate member
including a void configured to receive a grounding shaft therein,

a drum contact member configured to remove an electrically resistive coating from an interior of the drum, the drum contact member connected to an outer periphery of the plate member, and

the at least two shaft contact ~~member~~ members configured to contact [[a]] the grounding shaft disposed therebetween, the shaft contact ~~member~~ members disposed entirely within an interior of the flange, and the shaft contact members connected to an intermediate member connected to the outer periphery of the plate member.

18. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the grounding plate comprises a plurality of drum contact members, wherein at least one of the drum contact members has a length longer than the other drum contact members.

19. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein ~~the grounding assembly~~ the plate member comprises a conductive plate including the outer periphery, and ~~wherein the grounding plate assembly comprises~~ a plurality of drum contact members radially ~~protrude~~ protruding from ~~an~~ the outer periphery of the conductive plate.

20. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the drum contact members comprises at least five circumferentially spaced contact members, and wherein a first one of the drum contact members has a first length, and a pair of drum contact members has a second length, and wherein the first length is larger than the second length.

21. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the flange defines a first recess, and wherein the first drum contact member is disposed adjacent to the first recess.

22. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein ~~the grounding plate~~ the plate member comprises a planar portion, and the grounding plate assembly comprises a plurality of drum contact members bent relative to the planar portion.

23. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the flange comprises a gear surface.

24. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the gear surface is formed on a portion of the flange disposed outside of the drum.

25. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein at least one of the shaft contact ~~member~~ members is bent.

26. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 25, wherein ~~the grounding plate comprises a plurality of the~~ at least two shaft contact members comprise two shaft contact members extending from the intermediate member.

27. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 26, wherein ~~the grounding plate comprises the~~ two shaft contact members are bent.

28. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 27, wherein free ends of the two shaft contact members are disposed between a surface of the interior of the flange and a planar surface of the grounding plate.

29. (Currently Amended) A photosensitive drum assembly for an image forming apparatus, comprising:

a drum defining first and second open ends;

a flange partially disposed in the first open end; and

a grounding plate assembly comprising

a plate member including a void configured to receive a grounding shaft
therein,

a plurality of drum contact members ~~and shaft contact member~~, one of the drum contact members being longer than the other drum contact member, the plurality of drum contact members connected to an outer periphery of the plate member, and

the at least two shaft contact ~~member~~ members configured to contact ~~[[a]]~~ the grounding shaft disposed therebetween, the shaft contact ~~member~~ members disposed entirely

Application No. 10/717,555
Reply to Office Action of April 5, 2005

within an interior of the flange, and the shaft contact members connected to an intermediate member connected to the outer periphery of the plate member.